



Maryland and Delaware

Media Summary

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Lower Expectations for Soybean Harvest

As fall harvest progresses, grain producers have lowered their expectations for soybean yields. Heavy rain in October, following a late summer dry spell, reduced soybean yields in Maryland and Delaware. This is according to a survey conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture based on November 1 crop conditions.

Maryland: Expected yield for soybeans dropped one bushel per acre from the October estimate to 34 bushels per acre. With 470,000 acres of soybeans expected to be harvested, production is now estimated at 16 million bushels. This compares with 21.3 million bushels harvested in 2004, when 495,000 acres were harvested at a yield of 43 bushels per acre. Maryland corn production is now forecast at 56.8 million bushels, with 400,000 acres expected to be harvested with a yield of 142 bushels per acre. According to the Weekly Crop and Weather Report for the week ending October 31, 88% of the corn crop and 46% of the soybean crop had been harvested at the time of the survey.

Delaware: Expected yield for soybeans is now estimated at 29 bushels per acre, down 2 bushels from the October estimate. With 182,000 acres expected to be harvested, production is estimated at 5.3 million bushels. This is significantly down from the 8.8 million bushels harvested last year, when 208,000 acres harvested yielded 42 bushels per acre. Corn yield is now estimated at 135 bushels per acre, down 2 bushels from 137 bushels estimated in October. With 150,000 acres expected to be harvested, production is estimated at 20.3 million bushels. This compares with 23.3 million bushels produced in 2004. According to the Weekly Crop and Weather Report for the week ending October 31, 92% of the Delaware corn crop and 35% of the soybean crop had been harvested at the time of the survey.

United States: Corn production is forecast at 11.0 billion bushels, up 2 percent from last month but 7 percent below 2004. Based on conditions as of November 1, yields are expected to average 148.4 bushels per acre, up 2.3 bushels from October but 12.0 bushels below last year. If realized, both production and yield would be the second largest on record, behind last year. Of the major producing States, forecast yields are higher than last month in Iowa, Indiana, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin as producers realized larger than expected yields and late planted fields matured under favorable fall conditions. Yield prospects are still below last year in all major corn States, except Minnesota and Wisconsin where producers are experiencing record high yields.

Soybean production is forecast at 3.04 billion bushels, up 3 percent from October but 3 percent below 2004. If realized, this would be the second largest U.S. soybean crop on record, only behind last year's crop. Based on November 1 conditions, yields are expected to average a record high 42.7 bushels per acre, up 1.1 bushels from October and 0.5 bushel above last year. Producers in the Corn Belt, the southern Delta, and most of the Southeast are realizing higher yields than expected last month, with record high yields forecast in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, and Louisiana. Area for harvest in the U.S. is forecast at 71.3 million acres, unchanged from last month but down 4 percent from 2004.

ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION 2004 AND 2005

Commodity	Unit	Planted		Harvested		Average Yield		Production	
		2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
Maryland		1,000 Acres				1,000			
Corn ¹	ACR	490	470	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	425	400	153	142	65,025	56,800
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	60	----	20	----	1,200	----
Soybeans	BU	500	480	495	470	43	34	21,285	15,980
Winter Wheat	BU	160	155	145	145	59	66	8,555	9,570
Barley	BU	42	46	39	41	73	86	2,847	3,526
All Hay	TON	----	----	215	200	2.65	----	570	----
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	40	40	3.30	----	132	----
Other Hay	TON	----	----	175	160	2.50	----	438	----
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	4.7	3.5	4.6	3.4	260	250	1,196	850
Peaches	TON	----	----	----	----	----	----	4.1	4.2
Apples	LBS	----	----	----	----	----	----	34,100	30,000

Delaware

Corn ¹	ACR	160	160	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	153	150	152	135	23,256	20,250
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	6	----	17	----	102	----
Soybeans	BU	210	185	208	182	42	29	8,736	5,278
Winter Wheat	BU	50	52	47	51	58	70	2,726	3,570
Barley	BU	29	29	26	27	80	81	2,080	2,187
All Hay	TON	----	----	14	15	2.93	----	41	----
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	6	6	3.90	----	23	----
Other Hay	TON	----	----	8	9	2.30	----	18	----
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	3.3	3.0	3.1	2.9	260	230	806	667

United States

		1,000,000							
Corn ¹	ACR	80,930	81,642	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	73,632	74,333	160	148	11,807	11,032
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	6,103	----	18	----	107	----
Soybeans	BU	75,208	72,200	73,958	71,270	42	43	3,124	3,043
Wheat, Winter	BU	43,350	40,320	34,462	33,680	44	44	1,499	1,494
Barley	BU	4,527	3,922	4,021	3,276	70	65	280	212
All Hay	TON	----	----	61,916	61,723	2.55	2.48	158	153
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	21,707	22,118	3.47	3.43	75	76
Other Hay	TON	----	----	40,209	39,605	2.05	1.94	82	77
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	58.4	50.3	53.9	48.3	340	334	18	16
Peaches	TON	----	----	----	----	----	----	1.3	1.2
Apples	LBS	----	----	----	----	----	----	10,420	9,379

¹Acres planted is for all purposes.